Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The 108th United States Congress passed Senate Resolution 108 on April 11, 2003, designating National Cowboy Poetry week; and,

Whereas, The written and oral history and contemporary stories of cowboy and western culture are valued education and art forms in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The preservation of cowboy poetry is an important historical documentation of the heritage of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The presentation of written and oral cowboy poetry serves to bring greater awareness of the continuing legacy of the cowboy in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, South Dakota is home to many sons and daughters who express the western legacy of yesterday and the vision of tomorrow in the form of cowboy poetry; and,

Whereas, The Heritage of the American West Series in Spearfish, South Dakota, is a nationally recognized program, dedicated to publicly presenting the stories and preserving the legacy through the poetry, music, and songs of the great American cowboy; and,

Whereas, The High Plains Western Heritage Center in Spearfish is a nationally recognized museum, founded to honor the Old West pioneers of South Dakota and surrounding states, and dedicated to collecting, preserving, and presenting artifacts, memorabilia, and western art; and,

Whereas, The Heritage of the American West Series and the High Plains Western Heritage Center are among those whose commitment and vision promote awareness and education as to the oral and visual history of the cowboy and the contemporary western culture in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 19-25, 2009, as

COWBOY POETRY WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State